## Coronavirus

# Novel Coronavirus 2019, Wuhan, China

## Situation Summary:



As of January 11, 2020, Chinese health authorities have preliminarily identified more than 40 human infections with a novel coronavirus in an outbreak of pneumonia under investigation in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. The preliminary identification of the novel coronavirus was announced by the World Health Organization on January 9, 2020.

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing illness in people and others that circulate among animals, including camels, cats and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can evolve and infect people and then spread between people such as has been seen with MERS and SARS. The outbreak in Wuhan, China has been reported to be linked to a large seafood and animal market, suggesting a possible zoonotic origin to the outbreak.

There is an ongoing investigation to determine more about this outbreak. This is a rapidly evolving situation and information will be updated as it becomes available.

#### **Risk Assessment:**

Outbreaks of novel virus infections among people are always of public health concern. The associated risk posed by such outbreaks depends on characteristics of the virus, including whether and how well it spreads between people, the severity of resulting illness, and the medical or other countermeasures available to control the impact of the virus.

Chinese health authorities report that to date in this outbreak, there has been no confirmed human-to-human spread of this virus. Authorities also report that several hundred contacts, including health care workers caring for outbreak patients, are being monitored and no additional illnesses have been detected. One patient is reported to have died. Internationally, there have no reports of any cases outside of China.

There is much more to learn about the transmissibility, severity, and other features associated with this novel coronavirus, and investigations are ongoing in China. Based on current information, however, the risk from the novel coronavirus 2019 to the American public is deemed to be low at this time. Nevertheless, CDC is taking proactive preparedness precautions.

The World Health Organization (WHO) provided updated guidance specific to this response the evening of January 10, 2020 : Clinicians should use WHO guidance until CDC guidance is updated in the coming days.

### CDC Response:

- CDC is closely monitoring this situation and is working with WHO.
- CDC has established an Incident Management Structure to optimize domestic and international coordination to this emerging public health threat.
- CDC has issued an interim travel health notice for this destination to provide information to people who may be traveling to Wuhan City and who may get sick.
- CDC has issued an interim Health Alert Notice (HAN) Advisory to inform state and local health departments and health care providers about this outbreak. An updated Health Alert Notice (HAN) is in development.

This is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation and CDC will provide updated information as it becomes available, in addition to updated guidance in the coming days on how to investigate possible infections with this new coronavirus.

#### Other Available Resources

The following resources are available with current information on the unnamed novel coronavirus

- World Health Organization, Coronavirus 🖸
  - o Pneumonia Outbreak in China 🖸
  - o World Health Organization (WHO) Statement Regarding Cluster of Pneumonia Cases in Wuhan, China 🔀

- CDC Information on Coronaviruses
  - CDC Travelers' Health: Pneumonia of Unknown Cause in China
  - CDC Travelers' Health information for people traveling to China
  - CDC Health Alert Network Advisory information for state and local health departments and health care providers

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